



## Regional Sediment Management

**Status:**

In Progress

**IWR Contact:**

Lynn Martin ([Lynn.R.Martin@usace.army.mil](mailto:Lynn.R.Martin@usace.army.mil))

**Purpose:**

This project provides support to the Regional Sediment Management (RSM) Demonstration Program, initiated to identify, apply, and evaluate RSM opportunities, practices, tools, benefits and impediments to implementing this system approach. It assists districts and MSCs in application of system approaches, to issues and opportunities associated with sediment management, and to work to help these offices integrate this approach as a business practice that will be sustained beyond the Demonstration program.

RSM is a system-based approach for collaboratively addressing sediment-related issues within a regional context. Key to the RSM approach are: --Recognition of sediment as a resource, integral to economic and environmental vitality, and with the multiple inter-related regional needs and opportunities. -- Using the sediment system to provide the context for managing projects/activities involving sand and other sediments in coastal, river & estuarine systems. -- Management strategies that integrate: --- Actions that affect the transport, erosion, removal, and deposition of sediment in a region ---Knowledge about the sediment system to inform local project decisions and longer range strategies ---Programs and resources across government levels and w/ private sector help balance objectives implement integrated sediment management plans.

**Objective:**

The objective of the RSM approach is to achieve more effective management of dredged material and other sediment resources through regional management strategies that link the management of Corps projects within a sediment system, with one another, and with activities of other Federal agencies, State, and local governments. The objectives of the RSM demonstration are to examine, apply and evaluate opportunities, practices, tools, benefits and impediments to applying regional approaches to sediment management.

**Benefits:** Cost savings, habitat improvements, improved partnerships with Federal and state agencies, leveraged data collection and management. Extended dredged material disposal site capacity, retention of littoral sands and sediment. Projects involving sediment management that are economically and environmentally sustainable.

---

**Progress:** Conference on "Managing Sediments in the Watershed: Bringing dredged material, sediment and watershed managers together," Portland, OR, August 28-31. Opportunity for dialogue among a diverse array of stakeholders who do not often have the chance to meet, share ideas and experiences, or work together to address interrelated programs, projects, and concerns.

The participants represented many sediment management perspectives, including:

Maintaining the navigability of ports and waterways; Protecting the environment; Conservation and restoration of estuaries and associated resources; Protecting water quality; Maintaining reservoir capacity ; Reducing flood and coastal storm damage; Managing watersheds; Managing coasts. Stakeholders met to hear their range of perspectives, and identify next steps for dredged material, sediment, and watershed managers to work together more in the future.

---

**Products:**

- Frequently Asked Questions about Regional Sediment Management  
[Paper by Lynn Martin and Jeff Waters, Jul 1, 2006](#) (mword, 1.8 MB)
- Regional Sediment Management (NDT-SIMOR Conference)  
[Presentation by Lynn Martin, Aug 30, 2006](#) (pdf, 2.7 MB)
- Regional Sediment Management Primer  
[RSM Primer by Lynn Martin and Julie Rosati, May 2004](#) (pdf, 1.3 MB)
- RSM and the Civil Works Strategic Plan  
[White Paper by Linda Hicklin and Lynn Martin, October 2005](#) (mword, 706 KB)
- RSM Operating Principles (draft)  
[Paper by Lynn Martin, March 2006](#) (mword, 353 KB)

---

**Related Links:**

- [Regional Sediment Management](#) (project web site)
- [Managing Sediments in the Watershed](#)
- [POH RSM website](#)
- [Joint Corps-CSO Workshop Summary: Opportunities and Impediments to Implementing RSM](#)
- [Authorities and Policies Supporting Implementation of Regional Sediment Management - ERDC/RSM-TN-8,](#)
- [Background and Overview of Regional Sediment Management](#)
- [Joint Demonstration Program and RSM Policy Workshop](#)
- [Regional Sediment Primer](#)

---

**Team:**

Lynn Martin poc  
Jeff Waters team leader  
Charley Chesnutt team member

**Partners:**